

dedicate to the Second District of Missouri and the people of the United States.

RAY BROCK

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the lifetime achievements of Raymond R. Brock, Jr., of Gladstone, Missouri. Ray has been awarded the Alexander Doniphan Community Service Award on the 200th birth anniversary of Alexander W. Doniphan. Ray's prestigious recognition exemplifies Alexander Doniphan's greatest qualities through education, jurisprudence, statesmanship, patriotism and as a successful businessman.

Ray Brock has dedicated his entire life to giving back to the community. From being a member of the Board of College Hill, Inc., to a pioneer in the development of the Northland area, Ray has shown committed excellence over the years. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1954, and has worked with the Salvation Army, Northland Community Foundation, the Liberty Hospital Board of Directors, Clay County Parks & Recreation Board, and countless other organizations. All of these qualities embody the unique character required for the Alexander Doniphan Community Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in applauding Raymond R. Brock, Jr., for his selfless acts of generosity through volunteerism. His life should serve as an example to all of us to help each other and our community.

### A PROCLAMATION HONORING SMYRNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR THEIR 150TH ANNI- VERSARY

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church was established in 1858, predating the Civil War; and

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church continues to have weekly Bible studies and an active choir; and

Whereas, Smyrna United Methodist Church continues to be a central gathering point in the heart of their community; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Smyrna United Methodist Church for contributions to her community and country.

IN HONOR OF PHILLIP D. STAR

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Phillip Star; a profoundly re-

spected and influential member and civic leader in the Greater Cleveland community; and in recognition for his twenty years of service as Director of the Center for Neighborhood Development (CND) in the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

As a civic leader, community organizer, educator and author, Phillip Star carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy in the Greater Cleveland Area. He earned his B.A. from the University of Wisconsin, an M.A. from New York University, and a J.D. from Case Western Reserve University. He has served the community in various leadership roles, dedicating his life to empowering and educating local residents in order to improve the quality of life in Cleveland's urban communities. He began his career in community organizing and neighborhood development as a volunteer in Gary, Indiana with VISTA. Prior to joining CND in 1988, he served as a consultant at University of Michigan's National Housing Institute and Housing Law Reform Project and as director of the Cleveland Tenants Organization.

Since joining CND twenty-years ago, Mr. Star has had a tremendous and lasting effect on our community and all those who have been touched by his work. He has worked to develop future leaders in the field of community organizing and neighborhood planning by instituting year long internships for undergraduate Urban Studies students at various community development corporations, with over one-hundred students being placed in over sixty organizations. Mr. Star has successfully initiated several programs which empower the local community and promote civic engagement, including a mediation program for the Cleveland Housing Court and an online community resource for Cleveland Residents, NeighborhoodLink. Under his leadership, CND was designated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs as a community partnership center.

Mr. Star demonstrates his leadership abilities and dedication to fostering community development both in the classroom and in the community. He teaches courses such as neighborhood planning and Cleveland neighborhoods and neighborhood institutions at Cleveland State University and was Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's appointee to the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Action to Support Housing. His other Leadership positions include serving as President of the Ohio Housing Coalition, serving on the Board of Trustees of the National Low Income Housing Coalition, and serving as Acting Judge of the Cleveland Housing Court. Mr. Star is also the founding trustee and past president of the board of Eco-City Cleveland and as president of the board of the Living in Cleveland Center. He currently serves on the board of the Cleveland Tenants Organization and the Neighborhood Housing Service and for eight years served as past chairman of the Cuyahoga Affordable Housing Alliance.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Phillip Star, who has dedicated his life to serving his community and everyone in the Greater Cleveland Area. Let his advocacy on behalf of the welfare of others serve as inspiration for all of us.

HONORING JERSEY CITY POLICE  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM STETSON

### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jersey City Police Captain William Stetson on the occasion of his retirement. Captain Stetson who will retire on July 1, 2008, received numerous recognitions for his service, evidence that he was an outstanding member of Jersey City Police Force.

Captain Stetson, was appointed to the Jersey City Police Department in 1981, and initially assigned to the East District. His dedication garnered the trust of his superiors and earned him other opportunities to serve the Department in the Special Patrol Bureau, Central Communications Bureau, Operations Division and Support Services Division. His experience and his knowledge of the community was recognized by the receipt of numerous awards including one Commendation, five Excellence Police Service Awards, three Unit Citations and one World Trade Center Award.

Please join me in honoring Captain William Stetson for his distinguished service to the Jersey City Police Department, and in congratulating him on his retirement.

### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PREVENT HOME IMPROVEMENT FRAUD MONTH

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and recognize National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month and to honor the efforts of Mr. Michael McGee of West Chester, Pennsylvania in raising awareness of the importance of this issue in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and across the country.

As the home remodeling industry continues to grow with the aging of the country's housing stock, so to does the opportunity for fraud by unscrupulous contractors who take advantage of vulnerable home owners, particularly the elderly. Recognizing National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month allows the remodeling industry and advocacy professionals a platform to educate homeowners, provide them with the resources to make sound decisions with regard to their home improvements, and raise awareness about potentially scandalous practices that could significantly impact homeowners financially.

Buying a house is an important purchase, but turning a house into a home is an incredible investment. Raising awareness and combating home improvement fraud and contractor dishonesty will help homeowners avoid unfinished projects, substandard materials, and an unsafe, unlivable dwelling.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise and join me today in honoring National Prevent Home Improvement Fraud Month. May this month continue to bring awareness to issue of home improvement fraud and efforts to prevent these types of scams both locally and nationally.